IN THE CLAIMS

1 – 19. Cancelled.

20. (Previously presented) A flatbed scanner, comprising:

a transparent flat panel comprising a top surface and a bottom surface;

a top lid comprising an opening, a supporting member and a limiting member, the opening being disposed adjacent to the top surface of the transparent flat panel, the supporting member comprising a supporting surface disposed adjacent to the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel, and the limiting member being disposed adjacent to a peripheral portion of the top surface of the transparent flat panel;

an optical scan module capable of being selectably shifted under the transparent flat panel and capable of pushing the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel toward the top lid as the optical scan module shifts; and

a flexible member capable of pressing the top surface of the transparent flat panel away from the top lid, the flexible member being disposed between the top surface of the transparent flat panel and the limiting surface of the limiting member.

21. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 20, wherein the optical scan module further comprises a pushing device capable of pushing the transparent flat panel toward the top lid.

22. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner window according to claim 21, wherein the pushing device comprises a cam that slides under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

23. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 21, wherein the pushing device comprises a pushing drum that rolls horizontally under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

24. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 21, wherein the transparent flat panel extends to a region beyond the opening of the top lid, and

wherein a moving area of the pushing device includes a part of the region of the transparent flat panel beyond the opening.

25. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 20, wherein the supporting member is integrally formed with the top lid.

26. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 20, wherein the limiting member integrally formed with the top lid.

27. (Previously presented) A flatbed scanner, comprising:

a transparent flat panel comprising a top surface and a bottom surface;

a top lid comprising an opening, the opening being disposed adjacent to the top surface of the transparent flat panel;

an optical scan module capable of being selectably shifted under the transparent flat panel and capable of pushing the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel toward the top lid as the optical scan module shifts: and

a flexible member capable of pressing the top surface of the transparent flat panel away from the top lid, the flexible member being disposed between the top surface of the transparent flat panel and the top lid.

28. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 27, wherein the optical scan module further comprises a pushing device capable of pushing the transparent flat panel toward the top lid.

29. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 28, wherein the pushing device comprises a cam that slides under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

30. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 28, wherein the pushing device comprises a rolling drum that rolls horizontally under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

31. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 28, wherein the transparent flat panel extends to a region beyond the opening of the top lid, and

wherein a moving area of the pushing device includes a part of the region of the transparent flat panel beyond the opening.

32. (Currently amended) A flatbed scanner, comprising

a transparent flat panel comprising a top surface and a bottom surface;

a top lid comprising an opening, a supporting member and a limiting member, the opening being disposed adjacent to the top surface of the transparent flat panel, the supporting member comprising a supporting surface disposed adjacent to the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel, and the limiting member being disposed adjacent to a peripheral portion of the top surface of the transparent flat panel, a distance between the supporting surface of the supporting member and the limiting member allowing the transparent flat panel to move toward the top lid; and

an optical scan module capable of being selectably shifted under the transparent flat panel and capable of pushing the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel toward the top lid as the optical scan module shifts.

33. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 32, further comprising a flexible member capable of pressing the top surface of the transparent flat panel away from the top lid, the flexible member being disposed between the top surface of the transparent flat panel and the limiting surface of the limiting member.

34. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 32, wherein the optical scan module further comprises a pushing device capable of pushing the transparent flat panel toward the top lid.

35. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 34, wherein the pushing device comprises a cam that slides under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

36. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 34, wherein the pushing device comprises a rolling drum that rolls horizontally under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

37. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 34, wherein the transparent flat panel extends to a region beyond the opening of the top lid, and

wherein a moving area of the pushing device includes a part of the region of the transparent flat panel beyond the opening.

38. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 32, wherein the supporting member is integrally formed with the top lid.

39. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 32, wherein the limiting member is integrally formed with the top lid.

40. (Previously presented) A flatbed scanner, comprising:

a transparent flat panel comprising a top surface and a bottom surface;

a top lid comprising an opening, a supporting member and a limiting member, the opening being disposed adjacent to the top surface of the transparent flat panel, the supporting member comprising a supporting surface disposed adjacent to the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel, and the limiting member being disposed adjacent to a peripheral portion of the top surface of the transparent flat panel;

optical scan means for being selectably shifted under the transparent flat panel and for pushing the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel toward the top lid as the optical scan module shifts; and

a flexible member means for pressing the top surface of the transparent flat panel away from the top lid, the flexible member means being disposed between the top surface of the transparent flat panel and the limiting surface of the limiting member.

41. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 40, wherein the optical scan means further comprises a pushing means for pushing the transparent flat panel toward the top lid.

42. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner window according to claim 41, wherein the pushing means comprises a cam that slides under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

43. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 41, wherein the pushing means comprises a rolling drum that rolls horizontally under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

44. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 41, wherein the transparent flat panel extends to a region beyond the opening of the top lid, and

wherein a moving area of the pushing means includes a part of the region of the transparent flat panel beyond the opening.

45. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 40, wherein the supporting member is integrally formed with the top lid.

46. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 40, wherein the limiting member is integrally formed with the top lid.

47. (Previously presented) A flatbed scanner, comprising:

a transparent flat panel comprising a top surface and a bottom surface;

a top lid comprising an opening, the opening being disposed adjacent to the top surface of the transparent flat panel;

optical scan means for being selectably shifted under the transparent flat panel and for pushing the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel toward the top lid as the optical scan module shifts; and

a flexible member means for pressing the top surface of the transparent flat panel away from the top lid, the flexible member means being disposed between the top surface of the transparent flat panel and the top lid.

48. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 47, wherein the optical scan means further comprises a pushing means for pushing the transparent flat panel toward the top lid.

49. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 48, wherein the pushing means comprises a cam that slides under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

50. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 48, wherein the pushing means comprises a rolling drum that rolls horizontally under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

51. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 48, wherein the transparent flat panel extends to a region beyond the opening of the top lid, and

wherein a moving area of the pushing means includes a part of the region of the transparent flat panel beyond the opening.

52. (Currently amended) A flatbed scanner, comprising

a transparent flat panel comprising a top surface and a bottom surface;

a top lid comprising an opening, a supporting member and a limiting member, the opening being disposed adjacent to the top surface of the transparent flat panel, the supporting member comprising a supporting surface disposed adjacent to the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel, and the limiting member being disposed adjacent to a peripheral portion of the top surface of the transparent flat panel, a distance between the supporting surface of the supporting member and the limiting member allowing the transparent flat panel to move toward the top lid; and

optical scan means for being selectably shifted under the transparent flat panel and for pushing the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel toward the top lid as the optical scan module shifts.

53. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 52, further comprising a flexible member means for pressing the top surface of the transparent flat panel away from the top lid, the flexible member means being disposed between the top surface of the transparent flat panel and the limiting surface of the limiting member.

54. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 52, wherein the optical scan means further comprises a pushing means capable of pushing the transparent flat panel toward the top lid.

55. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 54, wherein the pushing means comprises a cam that slides under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

56. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 54, wherein the pushing means comprises a rolling drum that rolls horizontally under the bottom surface of the transparent flat panel.

57. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 54, wherein the transparent flat panel extends to a region beyond the opening of the top lid, and

wherein a moving area of the pushing means includes a part of the region of the transparent flat panel beyond the opening.

58. (Currently amended) The flatbed ~~scanner~~ scanner according to claim 52, wherein the supporting member is integrally formed with the top lid.

59. (Previously presented) The flatbed scanner according to claim 52, wherein the limiting member is integrally formed with the top lid.

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